



# Town of Groton - Public Works

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## Meeting Minutes

### Permanent School Building Committee

**Chairman Rick DeMatto, Vice-Chairman W. Gordon Lange, Robert J. Austin-LaFrance, Richard Monteiro, Robert Morrison, David Russell, and John Webster.**

Thursday, December 7, 2006

7:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

#### Regular Meeting

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chairman Rick DeMatto, Gordon Lange, Robert Morrison and John Webster

Members Absent: Robert J. Austin-LaFrance, Richard Monteiro and David Russell

Staff: Rick Norris, Project Manager - School Construction, Wes Greenleaf, Director of School Buildings and Grounds, and Colleen Quattromani, Recorder.

JCJ Architecture: Jeffrey Beatrice, Associate.

Also present Catherine Kolnaski, Town Councilor and Robert Peruzzotti, Board of Education Liaison.

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 pm due to technical difficulty.

#### 2. RECEIPT OF CITIZEN'S PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Chet Moore, Air Traffic Manager at the Groton FAA Contact Tower, had questions about the crane in use in the Fitch High School construction project. The crane at the Kolnaski project was not a concern. Mr. Norris gave Mr. Moore a general outline of the construction schedule but told him that he should speak with the Construction Manager to address specific concerns. Mr. Beatrice of JCJ Architecture said that he had personally brought details of the project to Ms. Young-Sebastian at the Groton office upon learning the FAA's main office in Massachusetts had a backlog of projects to review. Mr. Moore asked if the crane was going to be up all day everyday during the project. Mr. Beatrice said that depended the steel erection and equipment installation schedule and said the project would work with the airport's needs. The phone number for Fitch's Site Superintendent who could provide the FAA with immediate assistance will be provided.

Catherine Young - Sebastian, Airport Manager, CT DOT Bureau of Aviation & Ports at Groton Airport, also addressed the PSBC with questions about the Fitch High School Project. Ms. Young-Sebastian asked the purpose of the expansion at the school and was told it was to insure accreditation and meet the expanding educational needs of the community. The period of comment by the FAA ends December 22nd. Ms. Young - Sebastian said she was happy to hear that the management and construction team place a high value on safety and that she personally was in favor of the project.

#### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### a) November 16, 2006

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Lange and seconded by Mr. Webster to accept the meeting minutes of November 16th as written. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS (other than Subcommittee reports)

##### (a) PSBC Members

Chairman DeMatto and the PSBC discussed the Prededication Ceremony held December 5th for Northeast Academy. They agreed that there was a good turn out for the event and that the event

*was held at a good point for displaying the progress of the Northeast Academy Elementary School project. The Committee was also happy with the news article which followed the next day in the New London Day newspaper*

**(b) Catherine Kolnaski and Northeast Academy Elementary Schools**

**1) Gilbane Building Company**

*No report.*

**2) JCJ Architecture**

*Mr. Beatrice, Associate, JCJ Architecture had prepared a materials selection presentation for the PSBC which included masonry, the storefront and curtain wall window systems, the metal panel systems and the asphalt shingle roofing. Mr. Beatrice had samples of each item and distributed a materials list (attached) which the group went through item by item. Chairman DeMatto was concerned with the color of the mortar joints used for the split face block on the Gym and Media Center. Mr. Beatrice said JCJ Architecture would discuss the color choice and make a recommendation on the final color selection.*

*Mr. Beatrice also reviewed a list of Change Orders for the Northeast Academy project (attached).*

**3) Board of Education staff**

*Mr. Greenleaf told the PSBC that the Board of Education has been working on their selections for the FF&E (Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment) package. The selection team includes five school principals and the input of other teachers in specialty areas such as music and art. Mr. Greenleaf said the Board was 90% complete with the process.*

**4) Department of Public Works staff**

*In news for the elementary school projects, Mr. Norris told that Committee that there has been progress in addressing the water issue at Northeast Academy. The Town has approval for installing a 12" water pipe from the school site to Ann Avenue and plans to begin installation the week of December 11th. The Northeast Academy project is still on schedule and on budget.*

*At the Catherine Kolnaski School the project is behind in concrete work but is expected to be on schedule with concrete next week. Steel work is in progress. This project is also on schedule and on budget. The Committee was told that the Town Engineer will be assisting in obtaining the utility easements for the various utilities at the three school sites. The PSBC also learned that the Town now has a dedicated building inspector for School Building Projects.*

**(c) Fitch High School**

**1) Gilbane Building Company**

*No report.*

**2) JCJ Architecture**

*Mr. Beatrice reviewed the Change Orders (attached) for the Fitch High School project with the PSBC. Chairman DeMatto asked when the project team would be addressing the Board of Education concerns over parking at the High School and Mr. Norris said parking would be reviewed in January.*

**3) Board of Education staff**

*(see report under Catherine Kolanski and Northeast Academy)*

**4) Department of Public Works staff**

*In reporting on the progress of the Fitch High School Project, Mr. Norris said that things were moving in area 1, foundation construction begins soon, and all known asbestos pipes have been removed. Gilbane finished their scheduling review with the contractors and they are still reviewing the results.*

*A dust complaint during the demolition of the new boiler room project has been addressed with*

*the installation of additional air filters. Mr. Greenleaf said air samples will be taken through out the project but he is pleased with the overall air quality during the project thus far.*

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a) School Recognition/Dedication Plans**

*The PSBC said again that they were pleased with the effort to recognize the work being done on the Northeast Academy Project and want to see the same for each of the projects.*

*Mr. Norris had information on the signature beam that will be installed at the High School and provided a diagram which showed where it will be placed at the new main entrance to the school.*

**b) School Design Committee Nominations**

*Discussion moved to the School Design Committee Nominations. The previous School Design Committee contained a member of the PSBC and the Committee has been asked to provide support for Phase II of the School Building Project as well. Chairman DeMatto said that other obligations prevent him from joining the Design Committee but that he had spoken with Vice-Chairman Lange who agreed to fill the position for the PBSC. Mr. Norris told the Committee that they should send a memo to the Mayor with a copy to the Town Manager addressing who would represent the PSBC and also add their suggestions for other appointees to the School Design Committee.*

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

*None.*

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

*None.*

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm*